

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Scett. II-28.—30,006—4-1-52.

P.W. (195 2) Department.

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<u>Endorsement</u> <u>D.O.</u> <u>Memorandum</u> <u>Lodged</u> No. 78036-9/52-1 Dated: 19 — 9 — 1952
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FURTHER PAPERS.

Department.	Number.	Series.	Date.

R.W. Sept.



September 1952

Rural Welfar
P.W. 21-0.
16-9-52
16-9-52
by A.S.

13-17-52
To,

The Honourable Minister for Rural Development,
Government of Madras,
Madras.

Humble representation of the public of Beltangady Sub-taluk
Puttur Taluk, South Kanara District.

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Honourable Sir,

May it please you to bestow your enlightened thought on the following facts, which, we with your kind leave, beg to represent herebelow.



That Beltangady sub-taluk, which is situated in the shadow region of the Western Ghats, lies well within the pale of what is termed as the "Malnad Region" and covers an area of 600 square miles. We deplore the fact, that situated as it is, this interior sub-taluk, which is constituted by 57 villages and boasts of a population of 1 1/2 lacs in Beltangady Firka alone is appallingly lagging behind in the pursuit of progress on account of lack of proper patronage. While bemoaning the leeway we have to cover, we are eager to point out that this sub taluk is blessed with a gift by nature in the shape of a waterfall of appreciable proportions. At about a distance of 50 miles from Mangalore, on the Mangalore-Charmady Road at a place called 'Bandaje' in Kadirudyavara Village (Puttur Taluk) a rivulet abruptly jumps to a depth of 550 feet to form a water fall called "Bandaje Water-fall". The noteworthy feature of this fall is that even in midsummer the flow of water seldom shrinks and the force of the fall is invariably even.

Now about this gift of nature, we would like to submit that the volume and velocity of the fall can be further enhanced at an infinitesimal cost by building a small dam across a small streamlet which has branched off from the mother rivulet. By thus diverting the vagrant branch to the mainflow, the waterfall can be enlarged substantially.

We narrate the above facts with a view to crave indulgence to suggest that if this waterfall, which is presently running to waste uncared for and unappreciated, is diligently harnessed and the latent energy is availed of, it can be made to yield cheap electricity for this dark and backward sub-taluk. We need hardly mention it in this context, that if electricity is obtained from this waterfall, in addition to easy and cheap electrification of these Malnad Villages, power will also be within the easy reach of the enterprising villagers to develop the existing cottage industries and to start newer ones. On top of this the excessive burden on agriculture will be absorbed by cottage industries while solving the problem of underemployment

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among the villagers who are mostly agriculturists by profession and who live under antedeluvian conditions. This is not all. We all ardently hope, that should this ^{proposal} fructify into a concrete achievement, we all will be enabled to take a long stride in the direction of rural development which is embarked upon by the Popular Government with commendable zeal.

Sir, we deem it meet to add that we cannot afford to fail to submit in this context, that the Local Panchayath, with its slender financial sources and paucity of technical aid is deplorably not in a position to embark upon or to bear the burden of such a gigantic and ambitious project.

In conclusion, we give expression to our firm belief and ardent hope, that the Honourable Minister will be pleased to bestow his mature thought on this humble representation of ours and will order an early investigation into the feasibility of the proposal, which if and when converted into a concrete reality will come as a boon to these Malanad regions.

Finally we thank the Honourable Minister, in anticipation of a fillip to our attempt to raise our sub-taluk to the status and stature of other more fortunate areas.

All communication in this regard may please be addressed To Sri.B.Madhava Prabhu, Beltangady, who is the present President of the Local Panchayath.

Yours faithfully,

B. Madhava Prabhu

- 1) M. P. Karnath
- 2) H. Brahmayya
- 3) R. Ramesh Babu
- 4) A. Ramesh Babu
- 5) S. Ramesh Babu
- 6) K. Ramesh Babu
- 7) M. Ramesh Babu
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